

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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http://ceo.lacounty.gov

August 13, 2007

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To:

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From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES' REQUEST TO APPOINT MANAGEMENT POSITION - DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND FAMILY **SERVICES**

Consistent with the August 4, 1998 Board-approved policy on management appointments, we received a request from Department of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) to appoint Joi Russell to the position of Deputy Director for the Services Bureau 1 at an annual salary of \$130,000 (\$10,833.33 per month -2^{nd} quartile of R14).

Ms. Russell has worked for the County for 30 years and has been with DCFS for 17 years. She is currently functioning as the Acting Deputy Director of Services Bureau 1 and receiving an additional responsibility bonus. As Division Chief (S12) over the Lakewood office since 2002, Ms. Russell has extensive management experience. During 2004, 2005, with Ms. Russell's leadership, her office was able to complete 1,345 adoption assessments within 60 days of the .21e hearings, successfully implemented the concurrent planning redesign and developed a legal permanency plan for DCFS children. In 2005, 2006, Ms. Russell increased the percentage of youth reunified within 12 months of placement by 58 percent while maintaining a low recidivism rate.

Ms. Russell's experience and accomplishments will be a valuable addition to DCFS' executive management team. We recommend approval of the request to enable Patricia Ploehn to build the executive management team she needs to be successful in achieving "The Key Three" - improved permanency (shortening the timelines to permanency), improved safety (reduce the recurrence rate of abuse and neglect) and reduced reliance on detentions (expand community-based strategies).

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The requested annual salary of \$130,000 will provide a 12.67 percent increase over her current base salary and a 6.8 percent increase over her current base salary and bonus. The requested salary will place Ms. Russell in the second quartile of Range 14. Based on the above, we concur with the Department's request to appoint Ms. Russell to the position of Deputy Director for the Services Bureau 1 at an annual salary of \$130,000 effective August 22, 2007.

In accordance with the policy on managerial appointments, unless we hear otherwise from your offices by August 21, 2007, we will notify the department that they are authorized to proceed with the appointment of Ms. Russell.

Please contact Lynn Cao at (213) 893-1216, if you have any questions or need additional information.

WTF:SRH:BY GP:LC:lbm

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Director, Department of Children and Family Services
Director of Human Resources

MAPP-Russell.bm